

Short Bio

João Ventura got a degree in Mechanical Engineering at IST, Lisbon, obtaining later his M. Sc. Tech. and Ph. D. in the field of combustion at the University of Sheffield, England.

He started working at IST during his final year as an undergraduate student in 1970/71, became a teaching assistant in the following year and he is assistant professor since 1982.

He has taught 16 different courses at IST (undergraduate and postgraduate level), some of them for several years.

Following his return from England, João Ventura started a research program on forest fires, having been principal investigator in several national projects in this area and local scientific officer in 3 European projects.

He also did research work on urban fires and his interests moved to questions connected to safety and risk analysis. Along these lines, he proposed a new course entitled *Industrial Safety*, which he has been teaching since the beginning and in 5 years had a total enrollment of about 150 students.

Since 1997/98 he is also responsible for a *Natural and Technological Risks* course in the Environmental Engineering program.

He has been supervisor of many final year projects and M. Sc. thesis (many of them in the safety area), has lectured in professional training actions and has given invited talks to different audiences.

He has been a member of the Internal Evaluation Committees for the programs in Mechanical Engineering (1995) and Environmental Engineering (1999).

João Ventura is a senior member of Ordem dos Engenheiros (the Portuguese engineering professional society) and he is responsible for the protocol between IST and SNPC (National Service for Civil Protection).